
TO: CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2020 Jun 01

FROM: DIRECTOR - PUBLIC SAFETY AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

PURPOSE: To obtain Council support for implementation of the Community Safety Plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council support the implementation of the Burnaby Community Safety Plan as shown in *Attachment 1*.
2. **THAT** A copy of this report be provided to the Chair and members of the Public Safety Committee.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Burnaby is a safe, connected, inclusive, healthy and dynamic community that will continue to grow and prosper well into the future. As Burnaby transforms and grows, the community safety requirements are also evolving to meet the changing needs of citizens. A critical component of this sustained and healthy growth is the sense of safety people feel in their community.

The first-ever Burnaby Community Safety Plan will provide a strategic framework for moving forward in a collaborative approach to enhance safety and liveability by addressing community safety challenges and opportunities.

2.0 POLICY SECTION

Goal

- A Safe Community
 - Crime prevention and reduction – Ensure citizens and businesses feel safe in our community
 - Emergency preparedness – Enhance plans, procedures and services so that we are better prepared to respond to emergencies and are able to maintain City services
 - Emergency services – Provide responsive emergency services

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- Transportation safety – Make City streets, pathways, trails and sidewalks safer
- Community amenity safety – Maintain a high level of safety in City buildings and facilities for the public and City staff
- A Connected Community
 - Social connection – Enhance social connections throughout Burnaby
 - Partnership – Work collaboratively with businesses, educational institutions, associations, other communities and governments
- An Inclusive Community
 - Celebrate diversity – Create more opportunities for the community to celebrate diversity
 - Serve a diverse community – Ensure City services fully meet the needs of our dynamic community
 - Create a sense of community – Provide opportunities that encourage and welcome all community members and create a sense of belonging
- A Healthy Community
 - Healthy life – Encourages opportunities for healthy living and well-being
 - Healthy environment – Enhance our environmental health, resilience and sustainability
 - Community involvement – Encourage residents and businesses to give back to and invest in the community
- A Dynamic Community
 - Economic opportunity – Foster an environment that attracts new and supports existing jobs, businesses and industries
 - City facilities and infrastructure – Build and maintain infrastructure that meets the needs of our growing community

3.0 BACKGROUND

The City recently adopted a Corporate Strategic Plan with a vision to become a world-class city that is committed to creating and sustaining the best quality of life for the entire community. The Corporate Strategic Plan outlines six primary goals to describe key focus areas and to assist with the prioritization of work and resources. One of these primary goals is to create and sustain a *Safe Community* through the following five priority sub goals:

1. Crime prevention and reduction;
2. Emergency preparedness;
3. Emergency services;
4. Transportation safety; and
5. Community amenity safety.

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One of the many activities undertaken to implement the Safe Community priority was the creation of the first-ever *Community Safety Plan* for the City. The Community Safety Plan outlines a comprehensive approach to enhancing community safety in our city and is a strategic framework which brings all the City's safety activities into one place. The Plan is guided by a vision of a *safe community for all*, where we collectively create and continually improve upon the conditions that enable all of us to enjoy the highest level of safety and security possible.

The Community Safety Plan reviews and analyzes the City's strengths, as well as areas that require an increased focus to make the best use of City resources for the benefit of all citizens. The Plan was developed through robust community engagement and research to deliver on the vision.

4.0 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The development of the Community Safety Plan commenced in 2019 and involved extensive consultation with more than 1,400 individuals and organizations to assist in the creation of the plan and provide valuable input. Several engagement activities occurred which included;

- **Key Information Interviews** - key community stakeholders were interviewed to hear from them first hand as to what community safety means to them and obtain suggestions as to how community safety could be enhanced.
- **Online Survey** – an online survey was undertaken to gather input on diverse community safety issues, assets, visions and strategic initiatives for the future and resulted in over 1,100 respondents.
- **Community Open House Series** – Open Houses were conducted in which attendees participated in various activities to solicit concerns, suggestions and engagement in safety topics. The Open Houses were conducted at;
 - Cameron Recreation Centre
 - Bonsor Recreation Centre
 - Eileen Daily Leisure Pool & Fitness Centre
 - Edmonds Recreation Centre
- **Public Safety Committee Workshop** - a workshop was undertaken with the City of Burnaby Public Safety Committee members to gather input on the current state of community safety in Burnaby, on community visions for the future and strategic initiatives to achieve those visions.

It was during these public engagement sessions that questions including the following were put forth to participants, to solicit an inclusive view of community safety;

- a) What are the community safety issues in Burnaby?
- b) What are the community safety assets in Burnaby?

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- c) What does a safer city look and feel like in the future?
- d) What initiatives and solutions do you suggest to enhance community safety?

All of the resulting information and material was collected, carefully reviewed, analyzed and correlated into common themes encompassing all of the contributions by stakeholders. These common themes directly related to the *health & well-being* of our community on matters such as housing & homelessness, community amenity safety, crime prevention/reduction and transportation safety. These themes then created the building blocks of the plan.

5.0 STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Upon completion of the initial community consultation process, the hundreds of ideas for initiatives and actions that were obtained from research, staff, community partners and the public were considered and ultimately chosen for inclusion in the plan.

The resulting 31 initiatives were selected based on numerous factors including the potential benefit to multiple stakeholders and multiple needs, forge links across social, environmental and economic dimensions of community safety, take the City into new and innovative areas where it can demonstrate leadership, and build upon established strengths and core competencies. It was also key that the initiatives incorporate measures and targets that can be tracked over time. Achieving our vision relies on the mix of existing, expanding and new strategic initiatives grouped in terms of the key priority area they address and the objectives to which they most directly relate.

6.0 REPORTING ON THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

Upon receiving support from Mayor and Council, the plan will be implemented and a focused effort will be placed upon the initiatives as identified in the plan. On a bi-annual basis, a progress report will be provided to the Public Safety Committee for their review and consideration.

In addition, on an annual basis, a progress report will be provided to Mayor and Council through the Public Safety Committee. This annual report will not only provide the status of each initiative within the plan, it will also include any suggested amendments or additions to the plan should they be required. As stated previously in this report, the Community Safety Plan is intended to be a *responsive* and *timely* plan to be amended if and as required by evolving factors in our community.

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7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Council support the implementation of the Burnaby Community Safety Plan and a copy of this report be provided to the Chair and members of the Public Safety Committee.



Dave Critchley
Director – Public Safety & Community Services

Attachment: Community Safety Plan

Copied to: Director Corporate Services
Director Engineering
Director Finance
Director Planning & Building
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
Officer in Charge – Burnaby Detachment
Acting Fire Chief – Burnaby Fire Department
Chief Librarian
Chief Information Officer